

Placer County Charter Review Committee

Meeting Minutes from Agenda of October 22, 2007 1:30PM

Location: Placer County Administrative Center
Executive Offices – 175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn CA 95603
Conference Room - A

Notice to the public: This meeting was electronically recorded and is available for the public in addition to the minutes.

1. Welcome – Chairman Wayne Nader

Committee Chairman Mr. Nader opened the meeting at approximately 1:35PM and welcomed those in attendance. Committee members present were: Mr. Wayne Nader; Mr. Greg Nau; Ms. Annabell McCord; and, Mr. Ron Feist. Mr. Brown, Mr. Lindstrom and Mr. Pineschi were absent.

Staff present were: Michael Paddock (CEO); Brian Wirtz (County Counsel); and, Mike Fitch (PIO).

2. Public Comment

The Chairman asked for public comment and none was offered.

3. Minutes of October 22, 2007 – Review and Approve

The minutes as submitted for the October 1, 2007 Charter Review Committee meeting were approved.

4. Unfinished Business

a. Salary Surveys - County Supervisors – Further Discussion

The Chairman noted that the perception of the role of an elected Supervisor is thought of as a part-time job. Some discussion occurred regarding the salary data from other comparable counties. Ms. McCord asked what was the taxpayers association reaction to the measure last time.

Mr. Nau noted that the taxpayers association was opposed to the measure and the major position seemed to be that the position was part-time.

Mr. Paddock and Mr. Wirtz clarified questions from the members concerning use of Aides as staff to the Board of Supervisors and timing of those additions to the Board office following the passage of Measure A.

Mr. Nau introduced the possibility of quantifying the time spent by the Supervisors on official business.

Ms. McCord noted that most people do not know how many meetings members of the Board of Supervisors attend. Mr. Wirtz noted that each Board member sits on a large number of committees. (Later during the discussion, Mr. Wirtz introduced a seven-page list of committees and commissions where Board members are appointed)

Chairman Nader suggested that it would be helpful to have some basic information on how busy the Supervisors are in an average week conducting County business, without a detailed time study.

Chairman Nader asked Mr. Paddock for clarification regarding the list of comparable counties when looking at issues of compensation. The Chairman noted that the average salary for a member of the Board of Supervisors from the list provided was \$99, 474.

The members continued the discussion and focused on what percentage of salary, or average of salaries might be appropriate to recommend to the Board. The members also discussed whether to include benefits and a cost of living adjustment in any recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

In response to a question from Chairman Nader concerning the method by which the previous Charter Review Committee made their recommendations to the Board, Mr. Nau recalled that the previous Charter Review Committee Chairman, Mr. Mike Holmes, made a presentation at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Chairman asked Mr. Paddock to provide some basic information on the how many hours Board members spend on County business for the next meeting.

- b. Prior Ballot Measures – Civil Service Commission/Personnel Director (Due to time constraints this item will be held over for the next meeting)**

- c. **Memorandum from Counsel – County Charter – Placer County Charter Section 303 (d) (Due to time constraints, this item will be held over for the next meeting)**

5. Timed Item – 2:45PM

- a. **Presentation – Placer County Superintendent of Schools – Ms. Gayle Garbolino-Mojica**

At approximately 2:45 pm, Superintendent of Schools, Gayle Garbolino-Mojica, began her presentation by thanking the committee for the opportunity to present information on her office today. Accompanying Ms. Garbolino-Mojica was Mr. Keith Bray, Chief Administrative Officer for the Placer County Office of Education.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica referred the committee to a packet of information she distributed which contained, The Statutory Function of County Boards of Education and Superintendents of Schools, and, The Janus Report, a study commissioned by the Sonoma County Office of Education and the Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools. (These items, along with Ms. Garbolino-Mojica's power point presentation are part of the official record and available for public review at the Placer County Executive Office)

Ms. Mojica presented California's Constitutional history and evolution of the office of Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education as created and modified by actions of the Legislature. Ms. Garbolino-Mojica also noted the more recent legislated expansion of duties of Superintendents.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica identified and noted two core issues previously raised by Dr. Brophy to this committee. As stated by Ms. Garbolino-Mojica, those issues are providing clear accountability and delineation of duties and, ensuring selection of the most qualified candidate.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica noted that an elected County Superintendent of Schools is the norm throughout the State of California. She also clarified the differences between local District School Boards, District Superintendents, and those of the County Boards of Education and elected or appointed County Superintendents of Schools, as is the case in Placer County.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica further clarified questions from the Chairman regarding budget control and approval in addition to the general scope of duties of the County Superintendent of Schools. Ms. Garbolino-Mojica

emphasized the model of shared governance between Superintendents and Boards.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica also referred the committee to various aspects of the Sonoma County 2006 Janus Report and its review of the current issue.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica provided Mr. Nau clarification on the Administrative Credential as mentioned in her presentation. She also fielded a question on costs of conducting the election for the Superintendent's position from member McCord.

In addition to three failed attempts at the state level in 1928, 1955 and 1968, to change the State Superintendent from an elected to an appointed position, at the local level Ms. Garbolino-Mojica noted that the electorate failed to approve recent measures likewise designed to move from an elected County Superintendent to an appointed position and as examples since 1976, cited the counties of Riverside, San Mateo, Orange and Contra Costa.

Mr. Nau asked for clarification of an aspect of Ms. Garbolino-Mojica's presentation. Comments concerning the characterization that the low visibility of the office and lack of any identifying issue or crisis makes the viability of changing the position unlikely were discussed. Ms. Garbolino-Mojica responded that from data in The Janus Report, it would be statistically difficult to change and added that insofar as the electorate would be voting to take power from itself, that also would be difficult.

Ms. Garbolino-Mojica began closing her presentation by identifying the following six points:

1. There are different roles for County Superintendents compared to District Superintendents.
2. There are different roles for County Boards of Education compared to local school District Boards.
3. There is a clear division of duties between County Superintendent and the County Board of Education.
4. Elected County Superintendents are the overwhelming norm with 53 of 58 counties, or 91% in the State of California.
5. Little or no evidence one system is better than the other.
6. The statutory duties of the County Superintendent may be changed by legislation and not by contract.

Those remarks concluded Ms. Garbolino-Mojica's presentation at approximately 3:30 pm.

Chairman Nader thanks Ms. Garbolino-Mojica and stated he would pass the packets of information on to the absent committee members.

6. New Business

- a. Committee Meetings - record meetings. Meetings are recorded.

7. Next Meeting

The next Charter Review Committee meeting date will be Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 1:30PM, in Conference Room A, Placer County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603.

Charter Review Committee contact persons: Michael Paddock, Senior Management Analyst, County Executive Office, 530.889.4030. Or, Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive, County Executive Office, 530.889.4010.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:35 pm.

Action Items for Next Meeting of November 13, 2007:

<u>What</u>	<u>Who</u>
Present rough information on hours of meetings of the Board of Supervisors	Mr. Paddock
Prepare next meeting agenda	Mr. Paddock
Distribute materials to all members in advance of next meeting	Mr. Paddock
Post next meeting date, agenda and minutes on County website	Mr. Paddock

Minutes submitted by:
Michael J. Boyle, Assistant CEO